



In re application of: Naoto Hirota

App. No. : 10/657,470

Filed : September 8, 2003

For : COLOR ACTIVE MATRIX TYPE
VERTICALLY ALIGNED MODE LIQUID
CRYSTAL DISPLAY AND DRIVING
METHOD THEREOF

Examiner : Unknown

Art Unit : 2871

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments
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January 29, 2004

(Date)


Yasuo Muramatsu, Reg. No. 38,684

**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a response to office action in the above-identified utility application.

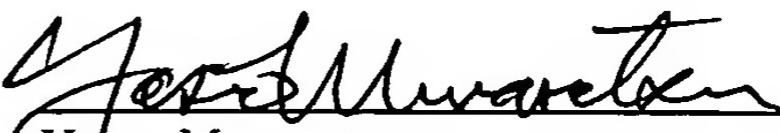
An extension of time to respond for one month(s) is hereby requested.

Time Extension Fee:

- one month (\$55 small entity)
 two months (\$210 small entity)
 three months (\$475 small entity)

Enclosed are:

- Information Disclosure Statement with PTO-1449 form and four prior art references.
 Return prepaid postcard.


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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|------------|---|---|---|---------------------|
| Applicant | : | Naoto Hirota |) | Group Art Unit 2871 |
| Serial No. | : | 10/657,470 |) | |
| Filed | : | September 8, 2003 |) | |
| For | : | COLOR ACTIVE MATRIX TYPE VERTICALLY ALIGNED MODE LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY AND DRIVING METHOD THEREOF |) | |
| Examiner | : | Unknown |) | |
| | | |) | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the requirements under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, enclosed is a form PTO-1449 listing four prior art references that are also enclosed herewith. This information disclosure statement is filed before the first office action on the merits, and thus no fee is required in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

This information disclosure statement is also filed under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication dated December 23, 2003 from the European Patent Office in the counterpart European application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement (copy of the communication attached).

Serial No. : 10/657,470
Filed : September 8, 2003

The list in the form PTO-1449 includes Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. JP 2001-343647 written in the language other than English. An English abstract of this reference is attached. The relevancy of this reference to the present invention is described in the European Search Report, a copy of which is attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed reference be considered in the substantive examination of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES

Dated: 1/29/2004

By: Yasuo Muramatsu

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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|--|---|----|---|------------------------|-----------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | | | Complete if Known | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Application Number | 10/657,470 |
| | | | | Filing Date | 9/8/2003 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Naoto Hirota |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | 2871 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | KANEKO. 008 AUS |
| 1 sheet | 1 | of | 1 | | |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|-----------------------|--------------------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.